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LETTER DATED 15 NOVEMBER 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the message of His Excellency Dr. Ali Akbar Velayati, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, addressed to you regarding the situation in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kamal KHARRAZI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Secretary-General

As you are aware, the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina has recently deteriorated as a result of Serbian attacks, supported by heavy shelling by the Croatian Serbs, against the Bosnian Government troops. During the past few weeks, renewed attacks by Serbs in Bosnia and Croatia against the western parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in particular the brutal attacks in the Bihać area, have resulted in the death and injury of many civilians, including women, children and the elderly. As the result of military actions by Serbs, the city of Bihać, which has been declared a safe area by the relevant Security Council resolutions, is seriously threatened and on the verge of being invaded.

We are of the view that if the Serbs are allowed to continue their campaign of aggression and genocide, we will witness more ethnic cleansing of Muslims in that area. It is evident that the decision to ease the international embargo against Serbia and Montenegro, the lack of any prompt action in dealing with aggressors, double standards in the decisions of the Security Council and the continuation of the arms embargo against the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the regrettable treatment of victims and aggressors on the same footing have encouraged the continued assaults and the campaign of genocide against the defenceless people of Bosnia and Herzegovina, who very soon will face the third hard and annoying winter.

The Government and people of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while expressing the utmost concern over the military actions by Bosnian and Croatian Serbs in the Bihać area, firmly believe that the international community and the United Nations in particular, in accordance with its duties and responsibilities enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, should shoulder the responsibility to take immediate practical action in defending the people of Bosnia and the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of that Republic.

Dr. Ali Akbar VELAYATI
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Islamic Republic of Iran